

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS FOR SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN COUNTIES JULY 2003



State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development

Unemployment Rates are Higher in June

The unemployment rate for the **Kenosha MSA** (not seasonally adjusted) was 6.5 percent in June. This mark is higher than last month's rate by nine-tenths of a percentage point and also higher than last June's rate by five-tenths of a percent point. The monthly dynamic of a higher June unemployment rate compared to May as it is typical for the labor force to experience an increase in both the number of employed and those seeking work. The annual increase in the rate is a continuation of a June trend, seen now for the fourth consecutive June.

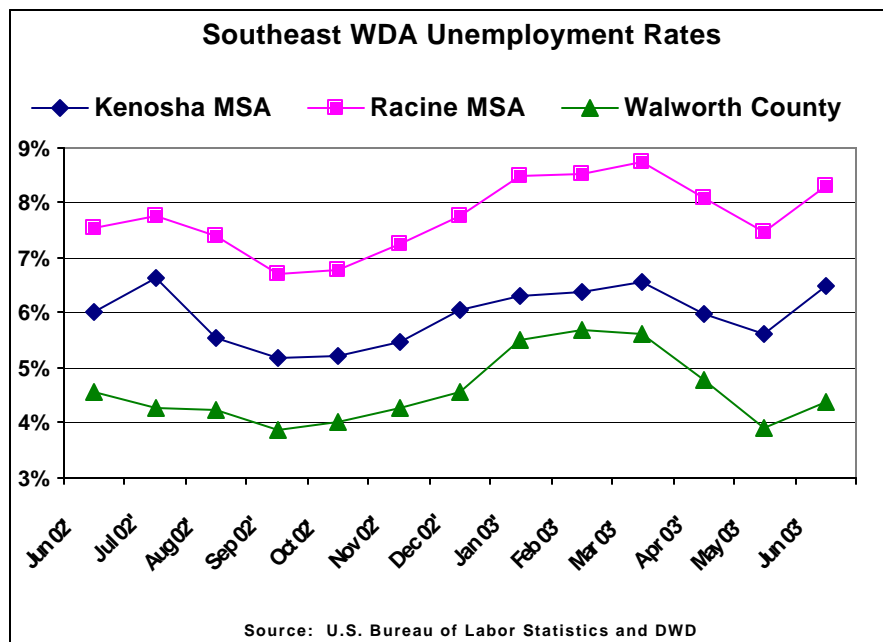
Kenosha County's industry employment shows a net loss of 400 jobs over the month. This, like an unemployment rate increase, is not unheard of in June. The net loss was centered in educational services employment along with a seasonal decline local government school district employment brought about by the end of the academic year.

The seasonal decreases overshadowed slight gains in small seasonal boosts in leisure and hospitality employment and in some other services industries. Construction employment showed a slight monthly gain and despite some recent, slight employment decline is still close to its highest recorded levels of employment for the month of June.

The **Racine MSA** (not seasonally adjusted) unemployment rate in June was 8.3 percent. June's rate is an increase of eight-tenths of a percentage point compared to May's rate. It is also higher than the June 2002 rate by eight-tenths of a point, as well. The labor force figures show over 1,800 more employed residents since last month, but the number of those unemployed jumped up by over 1,000 creating the large increase in the unemployment rate. Annually, Racine County shows the largest increases in both the number of employed and unemployed in the southeast region. It also shows the largest annual increase in the unemployment rate in the southeast corner, too.

Racine County's industry figures show a monthly improvement with an 800 job increase. The increase is a bit smaller

compared to the last few Junes, but is a good sign nonetheless in light of the sluggishness of the local economy. The job gains were scattered across many industry sectors, with no net job losses seen over the month in any sector data. Noteworthy is that the main goods producing sectors, construction and manufacturing, posted employment gains over the month by 200 and 100 jobs, respectively.



Annually, Racine County's industry picture has shown the most improvement in the region gaining 700 jobs since last June. Only one industry in the county, leisure and hospitality, shows a net employment loss over the year. Professional and business services employment showed the largest annual increase followed by manufacturing and retail trade.

Manufacturing has shown an annual employment increase for the fourth straight month, but is still running at 85 percent of its average employment level in the 1990-2000 timeframe.

Walworth County's unemployment rate registered 4.4 percent in June. This is five-tenths of a percentage point higher than May's rate. It is lower than last June's rate by two-tenths of a percentage point. Walworth was the only regional county to show a lower unemployment rate over the year.

Walworth County shows a net gain of about 100 jobs over the month. This is a small overall net gain for this month in which a large drop in government employment masked increases in education and health services and leisure and hospitality employment. Annually, there are 600 fewer jobs in the county than at this point one year ago. The deficit is centered in government employment and information, professional and business services. Leisure and hospitality and health services employment have shown strong increases over the year showing that even a softer economy has not diminished the appeal of Lake Geneva and the rest of the county to part-year residents and other visitors.

June 2003	Wisconsin	Kenosha County/MSA	Racine County/MSA	Walworth County	Southeast WDA	City of Kenosha	City of Racine
Civilian Labor Force*	3,164,047	85,357	97,940	56,607	239,904	50,554	41,315
Persons Employed	2,982,426	79,819	89,794	54,121	223,734	46,673	35,889
Persons Unemployed	181,621	5,538	8,146	2,486	16,170	3,881	5,426
Unemployment Rate	5.7%	6.5%	8.3%	4.4%	6.7%	7.7%	13.1%
Total jobs of all non-farm industries** (thousands)	2,828.9	54.0	81.5	42.2	177.7		
Goods Producing Jobs	648.7	12.8	24.4	10.5	47.7		
Service Producing Jobs	2,180.2	41.2	57.1	31.6	129.9		
Construction, Mining and Natural Resources	129.4	2.4	4.2	2.0	8.6		
All Manufacturing	519.3	10.4	20.2	8.5	39.1		
Total Trade	440.2	9.4	12.7	5.1	27.2		
Wholesale Trade	118.8	2.0	3.1	xx	xx		
Retail Trade	321.4	7.4	9.6	xx	xx		
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	106.9	1.7	1.9	1.3	4.9		
Financial Activities	158.7	1.6	2.6	1.0	5.2		
Education and Health Services	361.2	7.1	10.2	4.2	21.5		
Leisure & Hospitality	256.4	6.2	6.5	8.6	21.3		
Information, Professional and Business Services, Other Services	438.5	6.4	12.4	4.7	23.5		
Information	50.5	0.4	0.8	xx	xx		
Professional and Business Services	248.1	3.2	6.7	xx	xx		
Other Services	139.9	2.8	4.9	xx	xx		
All Government	418.3	8.8	10.8	6.7	26.3		
Change from May 2003							
Civilian Labor Force*	87,520	1,530	2,870	1,140	5,550	1,030	1,320
Persons Employed	62,050	720	1,830	830	3,370	420	730
Persons Unemployed	25,480	820	1,040	320	2,170	610	590
Unemployment Rate	0.7%	0.9%	0.8%	0.5%	0.8%	1.1%	1.0%
Total jobs of all non-farm industries** (thousands)	30.8	-0.4	0.8	0.1	0.5		
Goods Producing Jobs	9.2	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.4		
Service Producing Jobs	21.6	-0.4	0.5	0.0	0.1		
Construction, Mining and Natural Resources	6.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.4		
All Manufacturing	3.0	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1		
Total Trade	7.8	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0		
Wholesale Trade	2.2	0.0	0.0	xx	xx		
Retail Trade	5.6	-0.1	0.0	xx	xx		
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Financial Activities	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Education and Health Services	-2.0	-0.3	0.1	0.1	-0.1		
Leisure & Hospitality	10.6	0.2	0.2	0.7	1.1		
Information, Professional and Business Services, Other Services	7.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3		
Information	0.1	0.0	0.0	xx	xx		
Professional and Business Services	6.2	0.0	0.0	xx	xx		
Other Services	1.3	0.1	0.1	xx	xx		
All Government	-5.6	-0.3	0.1	-1.0	-1.2		
Change from June 2002							
Civilian Labor Force*	79,670	2,340	3,060	150	5,550	1,390	1,560
Persons Employed	68,000	1,790	2,070	250	4,100	1,040	830
Persons Unemployed	11,680	550	990	-90	1,450	340	730
Unemployment Rate	0.2%	0.5%	0.8%	-0.2%	0.5%	0.0%	1.3%
Total jobs of all non-farm industries** (thousands)	5.5	0.2	0.7	-0.6	0.3		
Goods Producing Jobs	-22.6	-0.5	0.1	-0.2	-0.6		
Service Producing Jobs	28.2	0.7	0.6	-0.4	0.9		
Construction, Mining and Natural Resources	-8.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1		
All Manufacturing	-14.5	-0.5	0.2	-0.1	-0.5		
Total Trade	6.5	0.7	0.2	-0.2	0.7		
Wholesale Trade	3.3	0.0	0.0	xx	xx		
Retail Trade	3.2	0.7	0.2	xx	xx		
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	1.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Financial Activities	4.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.1		
Education and Health Services	2.2	-0.1	0.0	0.3	0.2		
Leisure & Hospitality	-0.5	-0.1	-0.2	0.5	0.3		
Information, Professional and Business Services, Other Services	9.2	0.1	0.6	-0.5	0.2		
Information	-0.5	0.0	0.0	xx	xx		
Professional and Business Services	3.9	0.0	0.4	xx	xx		
Other Services	5.8	0.1	0.1	xx	xx		
All Government	4.9	0.0	0.0	-0.4	-0.4		

* Labor force figures are **not** seasonally adjusted and are commonly revised. Figures from "place of residence" survey from the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Local Area Unemployment Statistics program. **Figures based upon "place of employment" survey from the BLS, Non-Farm Wage and Salary estimates. Industry employment figures are in thousands and are rounded. "XX" indicates that data is suppressed and has been aggregated with other industries. **Month and year ago change figures are rounded and may not sum to total**

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